

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

AL KARIM <i>et al.</i> ,	:	
	:	
Petitioners/	:	
Plaintiffs,	:	
	:	
v.	:	Civil Action No.: 05-0998 (RMU)
	:	
GEORGE W. BUSH <i>et al.</i> ,	:	Document No.: 2
	:	
Respondents/	:	
Defendants	:	

MEMORANDUM ORDER

**GRANTING MOTION FOR STAY;
ORDERING 30 DAYS NOTICE OF ANY INTENT TO MOVE PETITIONERS**

This matter comes before the court on the respondents' motion to stay proceedings pending related appeals and for continued coordination. On January 19, 2005, Judge Leon issued opinions in *Khalid v. Bush* and *Boumediene v. Bush* granting the government's motion to dismiss petitions for writ of habeas corpus brought by detainees at the United States Naval Station at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba ("GTMO"). *Khalid v. Bush*, 355 F. Supp. 2d 311 (D.D.C. 2005). On January 31, 2005, Judge Green issued an opinion in *In re Guantanamo Cases*, granting in part and denying in part the government's motion to dismiss in eleven cases consolidated for the purpose of that motion. *In re Guantanamo Detainee Cases*, 355 F. Supp. 2d 443 (D.D.C. 2005). The petitioners in the above cases filed notices of appeal, and the D.C. Circuit has yet to issue an opinion. Accordingly, the state of the law in this circuit concerning the habeas rights of GTMO detainees is unclear. In addition, the government points to the inefficiency of resolving the

merits of the instant habeas petition prior to the D.C. Circuit issuing a ruling that will cover similar matters. Respondents' Mot. to Stay at 3.

The government is well aware of this court's concern that the government may remove the petitioners from GTMO in the near future, thereby divesting (either as a matter of law or *de facto*) the court of jurisdiction. Such an outcome would abuse the processes now put in place for the purpose of adjudicating matters on their merits. *See Rasul v. Bush*, 124 S.Ct. 2686 (2004). Accordingly, the court cannot allow such a scenario to unfold; the court will "guard against depriving the processes of justice of their suppleness of adaptation to varying conditions." *Landis v. North American Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 256 (1936). Coextensive with the district court's inherent power to stay proceedings is the court's power to craft a stay that balances the hardships to the parties. *Id.* at 255 (noting concerns regarding the stay causing "even a fair possibility . . . [of] damage to some one else"); *see also Clinton v. Jones*, 520 U.S. 681, 707 (1997) (noting that "burdens [to the parties] are appropriate matters for the District Court to evaluate in its management of the case").

Accordingly, it is this 8th day of August, 2005,

ORDERED that the respondents' motion for stay is **GRANTED**; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED that the respondents, their agents, servants, employees,

confederates, and any persons acting in concert or participation with them, or having actual or

implicit knowledge of this Order by personal service or otherwise, may not remove the

petitioners from GTMO unless this court and counsel for petitioners (if counsel has been

appointed or retained) receive thirty days' advance notice of such removal; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED that the court **ENTERS** by way of reference the protective

ordered previously entered in the other Guantanamo detainee cases. *E.g.*, Amended Protective

Order and Procedures for Counsel Access to Detainees at the United States Naval Base in

Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, *In re Guantanamo Detainee Cases*, No. 02-0299 (D.D.C. Oct. 8, 2004).

SO ORDERED.

RICARDO M. URBINA
United States District Judge